

The Swiss Choral Society

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cluded a six months' stay at the College of the S.M.S. in London, the results of which, as can be gleaned from the report, were very satisfactory.

The Chairman informed the members that No. 34, Fitzroy Square, vacated by the Society on the expiry of the lease in March last, had been let and that the new tenant would move in shortly.

Mr. W. Meier, Vice-President, gave particulars of a four months' course just concluded at the English Centre, Frohburg. These courses are held under the auspices of the S.K.V. and are based on the curriculum of the S.M.S. College in London. Mr. Meier mentioned that from the report it was evident that many young Swiss were eagerly looking forward to the time when they could again go abroad to study foreign languages and business methods.

This concluded the official part of the meeting, but many members stayed on to indulge in a game of "Jass" or table tennis. It is nice to see that more and more members are availing themselves of the club amenities offered at Swiss House, which though not sumptuous are at least congenial.

Members and friends are reminded that the next Monthly Meeting will be held at Swiss House on Saturday, December 12th, and will be followed by an interesting film show, particulars of which will be announced in due course.

W.B.

THE SWISS CHORAL SOCIETY.

In view of the fact that the Swiss Choral Society has had no active President for some considerable time, owing to his prolonged absence abroad, and that secretarial duties were executed *pro tem* by the Choir's Conductor, the members of the Society desired that a war-time general meeting be convened. This took place on October 30th last at Swiss House, 35, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

Although extremely well attended rehearsals had been held regularly for the last eighteen months, it was felt that it would stand the Choir in good stead to have a strong working Committee. With this point in view, Mr. F. G. Sommer was asked to take the Chair and preside over the meeting. At 6.30 precisely, with the punctuality which always characterises the functions of the Swiss Choir, the Chairman declared the meeting open and addressed the members on the main item on the agenda, namely the election of a Committee. A fairly short discussion ensued after which the following members were chosen and unanimously elected to serve:

<i>President:</i>	Mr. F. G. Sommer.
<i>Vice-President:</i>	Mr. J. H. Berger.
<i>Hon. Treasurer:</i>	Mr. E. Ritzmann.
<i>Hon. Secretary:</i>	Mr. E. P. Dick.
<i>Hon. Librarian:</i>	Mr. C. Sykora.

The meeting then proceeded with the ordinary business. First of all, all members at this meeting expressed great regret and disappointment that the Reporter on the First of August Celebration should have omitted to mention the Choir's excellent contribution to an otherwise well intended program gone wrong. The Secretary stated that he had taken the matter up with the Reporter and that the latter had expressed regret for his forgetfulness. We therefore decided to forgive an old friend of the Choir on the ground that *hominis est errare!*—

It was further decided to continue rehearsals regularly at Swiss House as hitherto, so long as war-time conditions permit.

Owing to criticism in connection with the choice of songs the meeting agreed to elect a Music Commission consisting of the Conductor and four members. Some members emphasised the fact that in future only songs of Swiss composers should be sung, but it was generally agreed that the Music Commission will take care of this point. This Commission will also study Mr. Tall's suggestion to revive English songs and Mr. Mathez's suggestion to sing more French songs so as to attract more French speaking Swiss to join the Choir. It should be stated here, however, that pre-war programs of the Choir always included at least two French songs and it is hoped that Mr. Mathez will have great success in persuading his many friends to participate.

The meeting agreed to confirm its affiliation to the Swiss Club, Charlotte Street, and instructed the Treasurer to do the necessary. Mr. Haëusermann, on behalf of the Swiss Club, thanked the Choir for this decision in a few well chosen words.

It was further proposed, seconded and unanimously agreed to record with great regret the passing away of Mr. Uli Hohl, who for many years was an active member of the Society.

The proposal by the President, seconded by the Vice-President, that Fr. Lanfranchi be made an Honorary Member of the Swiss Choral Society, was carried unanimously by the meeting with prolonged acclamation.

Upon this happy note the President closed the meeting after having stressed the point that all members must do their utmost to further in every way the aims of the Society and encourage and induce their friends to join the Choir, and so perpetuate the good name of the Swiss Choral Society of prewar years.

epd.

SWISS BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

The Swiss Benevolent Society and the two branches of the Swiss Church in London appeal once again to their compatriots for their kind contributions in cash or kind, in order to provide a little extra cheer for Christmas to our Swiss in need. All kinds of wearing apparel and household linen would be much appreciated and gratefully received.

PARCELS should be addressed to:

31, Conway Street, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

CASH REMITTANCES to:

Swiss Benevolent Society,

31, Conway Street, Fitzroy Square, W.1.

The Rev. M. Pradervand,

77, Wood Vale, N.10.

The Rev. E. Jornot,

67B, Golders Green Road, Golders Green, N.W.11.

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